

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In this Amendment, claims 1-47 are currently amended. Additionally, the specification has been amended for clarity. No new matter has been introduced into the application by virtue of the amendments to the specification or to the amended claims. The currently amended claims generally contain formal or stylistic changes to the claim language.

The amendments to the specification add no new matter to the application as filed. Support for the crystalline monoglyceride having a carbon chain length of about 10 to about 16 is found in the originally filed specification and in original claim 1 (carbon chain length of 12 to 16) and original claim 24 (carbon chain length of about 10 to about 14).

Support for the amended and new claims is found throughout the specification of the instant application and in the prior claims. Specifically, in amended claim 1, the phrase "greater than 0 to about 2 wt. %" clarifies that the amount of hydrogen peroxide in the method and compositions is not 0. Support for amounts of hydrogen peroxide greater than 0 to about 2 wt. % in accordance with the claimed invention is found in the Examples of the specification, particularly on page 6, lines 18-21 of the originally filed specification (i.e., in published application no. 20020031556 at [0030]); and in Tables 2-4 on pages 11-14 of the originally filed application (i.e., in published application no. 20020031556 at [0042] to [0049]). Also in claim 1, support for the carbon chain length of about 10 to 16 carbon atoms is found in original claim 1 (carbon chain length of 12 to 16) and original claim 24 (carbon chain length of about 10 to about 14). Support for 2 wt. % of hydrogen peroxide is found in the originally filed specification on page 4, line 20 (i.e., in published application no. 20020031556 at [0019]) and in the Abstract of the disclosure.

Accordingly, claims 1-47 are currently pending in the application.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's allowance of claims 25-47 "subject to a search update at the time of the next Office Action" in the application.

Clarity of the claims

(1) The Examiner has suggested that Applicant amend the language “about 2 wt. % or less hydrogen peroxide” so as not to include “0% hydrogen peroxide”. Accordingly, the relevant claims have been amended to recite “greater than 0 to about 2 wt. % hydrogen peroxide”, which is supported by the disclosure of the specification as elucidated hereinabove.

(2) The Examiner has suggested clarification of the terms “C12” and “C14” in claims 7-9 and 29-31. The instant specification has been amended to clarify that “(C12)” refers specifically to 1-Glycerolmonolaurate, which has 12 carbon atoms, and that “(C14)” refers specifically to 1-Glycerolmonomyristate, which has 14 carbon atoms. That C12 and C14 refer specifically to 1-Glycerolmonolaurate and 1-Glycerolmonomyristate, respectively, is clear from a review of the original and amended specification, e.g., the paragraph beginning on page 7, lines 22-25 through page 8, lines 1-7 of the application as filed (i.e., paragraph [0035] of the published application no. 20020031556). The pertinent claims have also been amended to reflect that (C12) and (C14) refer parenthetically to 1-Glycerolmonolaurate and 1-Glycerolmonomyristate, respectively.

The claims satisfy 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite due to the recitation of “2% wt. %”. Applicant submits that this rejection is mooted in view of claim 1 as presently amended. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 24 was objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presently amended address the objection and that claim 1 as presently amended provides the proper antecedent basis for dependent claim 24.

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CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that this application is now in condition for allowance. An action progressing this application to issue is courteously urged.

Should any additional fees be deemed to be properly assessable in this application for the timely consideration of this Amendment and response, or during the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such additional fee(s), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. **50-0311**, Reference No. **28069-531**, Customer No. **34537**.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that further discussion of the application would be helpful, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at (212) 692-6742 and is assured of full cooperation in an effort to advance the prosecution of the instant application and claims to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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